for sanction of funds upto 2003-04, but lying pending with the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI): (a) and (b) Food Processing Industries operate both in the organised and unorganised sectors. Most of the processed food items have been exempted from the purview of licensing under the Industrial (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951. As such information about number of food processing units is not maintained centrally.

(c) The number of projects forwarded from different States pending with the Central Government are 704.

National Population Policy

1095. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a National Population Policy was announced in the country in 2000 A.D.;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof including targets set together with the strategies and methodologies laid down to attain them; and

(c) the country's population as on 1st January, 2004 *vis-a-vis* the population as in 2000 when the new population policy was put in place?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has adopted the National Population Policy (NPP) in February 2000, which envisages a set of National socio-demographic goals to be achieved by 2010, including attainment of Total Fertility Rate of 2.1, Infant Mortality Rate of below 30 per 1000 live births and Maternal Mortality Rate of 100 per 1,00,000 live births. It aims at achievement of these goals through an interdisciplinary, decentralized, voluntary approach and stresses on a comprehensive package of services for Contraception, Maternal and Child Healthcare.

(c) Country's estimated population as on 1st January, 2000 was 100.55 million, which is expected to have reached to 107.69 million as on 1st January 2004.